

Message Text

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TAGS: IUOTO, PORG, OCON

SUBJECT: IUOTO MEERUYG REGIONAL TRAVEL COMMISSION FOR THE
AMERICAS (RCTA) MEXICO CITY, APRIL 22-26, 1975

1. DELEGATION: DANIEL EDGELL, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO ASSISTANT
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR TOURISM; AMBASSADOR JOSEPH JOHN JOVA;
WILLIAM TAPPE, DIRECTOR USTS MEXICO.

2. PRINCIPAL ISSUES ON AGENDA: APPROVAL OF REPORTS FROM RCTA
MEETINGS HELD IN RIO, JAN. 1974, AND SAN SALVADOR 1973; REPORT
OF COMMISSION PRESIDENT; REPORT OF COMMISSION SECRETARY; VARIOUS
SPECIAL STUDIES; RECOMMENDATIONS OF MANILA CONFERENCE AND
DISCUSSIONS RELATED TO WTO MADRID ASSEMBLY.

3. AS MAJOR INTEREST FOCUSED ON WTO MEETING, THIS REPORT WILL
BE LIMITED TO WTO ISSUES.

4. ON APRIL 22 ONLY 8 DELEGATES HAD ARRIVED FOR OPENING SESSION.
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING INTRODUCTIONS, DELEGATE FROM MEXICO
(AMBASSADOR CASTRO Y CASTRO) ASKED FOR AN EXPLANATION OF U.S.
SENATE RATIFICATION OF WTO STATUTES. MR. EDGELL'S CLARIFICATION
INCLUDED REFERENCE TO U.S. PARTICIPATION AT MADRID UNDER
ARTICLE 42 AND INDICATED THAT SENATE RATIFICATION WAS
CONTINGENT ON PROGRAMS AND BUDGET DECISIONS MADE AT MADRID
MEETING.

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5. MEXICAN DELEGATE URGED PRECEDENT ESTABLISHED IN KENYA

OF SELECTING DEVELOPING NATIONS AS SITES FOR UN AGENCIES
BE RECOGNIZED BY RCTA.

6. MEXICO DELEGATE EMPHASIZED THAT DECISION TO HOLD
ASSEMBLY IN MADRID WAS "NOT LEGAL" AND GAVE UNFAIR
ADVANTAGE TO MADRID'S CANDIDACY FOR HEADQUARTERS.

7. THROUGHOUT CONFERENCE MEXICAN DELEGATE MADE NUMEROUS
REFERENCES TO EARLY SUPPORT OF LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES
FOR MEXICAN CANDIDACY FOR WTO HEADQUARTERS SITE. EVERY
EFFORT WAS MADE OFFICIALLY AND UNOFFICIALLY TO CONSOLIDATE
THIS SUPPORT AMONG RCTA MEMBERS.

8. UNDER VOTING PROCEDURE FOLLOWED, ONLY NEGATIVE VOTES
RECORDED BY SECRETARY AND CHAIR RULED MEASURES PASSED IF
NO NAYS REGISTERED; NUMBERS OF ABSTENTIONS AND AFFIRMATIVE
VOTES DISREGARDED. CONSEQUENTLY, ON APRIL 24, WITH 12
COUNTRIES PRESENT, RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED ENDORSING RCTA
SUPPORT OF MEXICO AS WTO HEADQUARTERS SITE. CANADA AND
USA REQUESTED SECRETARY RECORD OUR ABSTAINING VOTES.
ALTHOUGH SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES ABSTAINED, THEY WERE NOT
SO RECORDED. UNOFFICIAL TALLY OF PRESENT SUPPORT OF RCTA
MEMBERS FOR MEXICAN CANDIDACY INDICATES ONLY ARGENTINA,
EL SALVADOR, PANAMA AND PERU STILL FIRM.

9. USA ALSO ABSTAINED FROM RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING
MEMBERS OF RCTA TO EXPEDITE RATIFICATION AND DEPOSIT OF
WTO STATUTES PRIOR TO MADRID MEETING.
JOVA

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